





## Prospectus.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS  
OF  
THE AUSTIN ARMS HOTEL  
AND BUILDING COMPANY,  
LIMITED.

INCORPORATED UNDER THE COMPANIES  
ORDINANCES 1855 TO 1886  
OF HONGKONG.

CAPITAL £200,000.  
Divided into 4,000 Shares of £50 each,  
of which 6,000 are fully paid-up Shares and  
allotted, 2,400 have been applied for  
and will be allotted and the remain-  
ing 1,000 are offered to the  
Public and are payable for  
as follows, viz:—

£10 on application, £10 on allotment, £5 on  
the 31st December, 1888, and the  
remaining £25 when and as the same  
shall from time to time be  
called up under the provi-  
sions contained in the  
Articles of Assoca-  
tion of the Company.

**Directors:**  
J. D. HUMPHREYS, Esq.  
D. N. WOODIN, Esq.  
E. C. L. REUTHER, Esq.  
A. FINDLY SMITH, Esq.  
E. L. WOODIN, Esq.

**Bankers:**  
THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI  
BANKING CORPORATION

**Architects:**  
MESSRS. DANBY & LEMCH.

**Surveyors:**  
MESSRS. WOOTTON & DEACON.

THE Company has been formed for the  
purpose of purchasing from the Vendors  
the site of the "Austin Arms" at  
Victoria Park, Hongkong, Farm Lot No.  
54, for the sum of \$50,000 (of which the  
Vendors agreed to take \$24,000 in fully  
paid-up Shares in the Company) and erect-  
ing thereon and keeping a large First-class  
Residential Hotel and also certain other  
pieces of ground at the Peak, registered as  
the remaining portion of Rural Building  
Lot No. 18 and Rural Building Lot No. 60  
for the sum of \$80,000 (of which the Vendors  
agreed to take \$24,000 in fully paid-up  
Shares of the Company) and erecting thereon  
and letting a terrace of 11 Houses.

The Share Capital required for the above  
objects is £200,000, to be raised by the issue  
of 4,000 shares of £50 each, of which 400  
shares fully paid up, will be allotted and  
issued to the Vendors in pursuance of an  
Agreement dated the 18th September, 1888,  
hereinafter mentioned, by which the Vendors  
agreed to sell the said Farm Lot No.  
54 to the Company at the price of \$50,000,  
and to accept payment of \$24,000 portion  
thereof in 400 fully paid-up shares of the  
Company, and agreed to sell the 18th  
September, 1888, hereinafter mentioned,  
by which the Vendors agreed to sell the  
said remaining portion of Rural Building  
Lot No. 18 and Rural Building Lot No. 60  
to the Company at the price of \$80,000,  
and to accept payment of \$10,000 portion  
thereof in 200 fully paid-up shares of the  
Company. A further 2,400 shares have  
been applied for and will be allotted, and  
the remaining 1,000 shares are offered to  
the Public and will be allotted and issued  
as the Directors of the Company shall de-  
termine and shall be paid for as follows:  
£10 on application, £10 on allotment, £5  
on the 31st December, 1888, and the remain-  
ing £25 when and as the same shall from  
time to time be called up under the provi-  
sions of the Articles of Association of the  
Company.

The site of the "Austin Arms" contains  
84,549 superficial square feet and is within  
5 minutes walk of the Terminus of the  
Peak Tramway.

The Hotel (proposed) to be erected will  
contain upwards of 500 Rooms, including a  
large Public Dining Hall, Private Dining  
Room, Drawing Room, Morning Room,  
Billiard and Smoking Room and Bar, and  
Bed Rooms, and will occupy half only of  
Farm Lot No. 54, thus leaving the other  
half for future extensions.

The Terrace proposed to be erected on the  
remaining portion of Rural Building Lot  
No. 18 and Rural Building Lot No. 60  
is of which will be allotted and prepared  
ready for building, and at the expense of  
the Vendor, will command a view, on the  
North Side, of the Harbour of Hongkong  
and on the South Side, of Poikoukum,  
and will consist of 2 houses of six rooms each  
and 9 houses of 5 rooms each, with out-  
buildings. The site contains an area of  
84,447 superficial square feet and is with-  
in 5 minutes walk of the Terminus of the  
Peak Tramway, and the houses can be let  
at each moderate rents as to readily secure  
tenants.

The architects of the Company estimate  
that the Hotel can be built and completed  
furnished at the cost of \$80,000, and the  
11 terrace houses can be built and finished  
ready for occupation for the further sum of  
\$80,000.

An arrangement has been made with Mr  
DORABEY NORKER for the management of  
the Hotel.

Two agreements only have been entered  
into and are respectively dated the 18th  
day of September, 1888.

Copies of these Agreements, the Memo-  
randum and Articles of Association of the  
Company and the Prospectus can all be  
seen at the office of Messrs. Wootton and  
Deacon, the Solicitors of the Company, at  
35 Queen's Road, Hongkong.

Applications for shares, which will be  
received until the 6th October next, must  
be made on a form which can be obtained  
at 35 Queen's Road, Hongkong, or from the  
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, and must  
be forwarded to the Hongkong and Shang-  
hai Banking Corporation, and the amount  
payable on application must be deposited  
with them. If no allotment is made the  
deposit will be returned, without any in-  
terest, and where the number of shares  
allotted is less than the number applied for,  
the surplus will be credited in reduction of  
the amount payable on allotment, and any  
excess returned.

Hongkong, September 21, 1888. 1567

## Not Responsible for Debts.

Neither the Captain, the Agents, nor  
Owners will be Responsible for any  
Debt contracted by the Officers or  
Crew of the following Vessels, during  
their stay in Hongkong Harbour.

EMMA T. ORANGE, Amer. barque, Capt.  
A. S. PENDLETON.—Russell & Co.  
THOMAS—Kong Cheong Tai.  
HAYES, German steamer, Capt. Dethlefsen.—Siemssen & Co.  
MORROW, British ship, Captain Theo.  
CORNING.—Siemssen & Co.  
P. N. BLANCHARD, American ship, Capt.  
N. W. BLANCHARD.—Siemssen & Co.  
PAXSHAW, British barque, Captain John  
Inokay.—Laro, Crawford & Co.  
Wm. H. CONNER, American ship, Capt.  
J. R. BUTMAN.—Purtee & Co.

## Intimations.

COLLEGE OF MEDICINE FOR  
CHINESE, HONGKONG.

UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE GOVERNOR OF  
THE COLONY.

Rector—Hon. FRASER STEWART, M.A., LL.D.  
Dean—PATRICK MANNON, M.D., LL.D.

SECOND SESSION—1888-9.

THE INAUGURATION OF THE SECOND  
SESSION OF THE COLLEGE will take  
place in the City Hall, Hongkong, on the  
1st October, 1888.

THE SCHOLARSHIPS AND PRIZES  
awarded for the Session 1887-8, will be  
DISTRIBUTED by His Excellency the  
Governor, Sir Wm. DES VOGES, K.C.M.G.,

on Tuesday, 2nd October, 1888. STU-  
DENTS are to assemble at the ALICE MEMORIAL  
HOSPITAL at 8 a.m.

THE WINTER LECTURES commencing  
on TUESDAY, 2nd October, 1888. STU-  
DENTS are to assemble at the ALICE MEMORIAL  
HOSPITAL at 8 a.m.

PROFESSORS, LECTURERS & DEMONSTRATORS.  
Anatomy and Dissection in the Field—Dop.  
Surgeon-General LEWIS, and the  
Officers, Army Medical Staff.

Anatomy—JAMES CANTLEY, M.A., M.D.,  
F.R.C.S., F.R.C.P., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D.,  
F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I.,  
F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M.,  
F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A.,  
F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N.,  
F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E.,  
F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O.,  
F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D.,  
F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I.,  
F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M.,  
F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A.,  
F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N.,  
F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E.,  
F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O.,  
F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D.,  
F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I.,  
F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M.,  
F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A.,  
F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N.,  
F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E.,  
F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O.,  
F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D.,  
F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I.,  
F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M.,  
F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A.,  
F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N.,  
F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E.,  
F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O.,  
F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D.,  
F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I.,  
F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M.,  
F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A.,  
F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N.,  
F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E.,  
F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O.,  
F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D.,  
F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I.,  
F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M.,  
F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A.,  
F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N.,  
F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E.,  
F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O.,  
F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D.,  
F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I.,  
F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M.,  
F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A.,  
F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N.,  
F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E.,  
F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O.,  
F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D.,  
F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I.,  
F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M.,  
F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A.,  
F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N.,  
F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E.,  
F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O.,  
F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D.,  
F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I.,  
F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M.,  
F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A.,  
F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N.,  
F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E.,  
F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O.,  
F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D.,  
F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I.,  
F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M.,  
F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A.,  
F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N.,  
F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E.,  
F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O.,  
F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D.,  
F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I.,  
F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M.,  
F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A.,  
F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N.,  
F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E.,  
F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O.,  
F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D.,  
F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I.,  
F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M.,  
F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A.,  
F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N.,  
F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E.,  
F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O.,  
F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D.,  
F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I.,  
F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M.,  
F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A.,  
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F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O.,  
F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D.,  
F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I.,  
F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M.,  
F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A.,  
F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N.,  
F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E.,  
F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O.,  
F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D.,  
F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I.,  
F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M.,  
F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A.,  
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F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I.,  
F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M.,  
F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A.,  
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F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I.,  
F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M.,  
F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A.,  
F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N.,  
F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E.,  
F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O.,  
F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D.,  
F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I.,  
F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M.,  
F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A.,  
F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N.,  
F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E.,  
F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O.,  
F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D.,  
F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I.,  
F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M.,  
F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A.,  
F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N.,  
F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E.,  
F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O.,  
F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D.,  
F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I.,  
F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M.,  
F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A.,  
F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N.,  
F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E.,  
F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O.,  
F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D.,  
F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I.,  
F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M.,  
F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A.,  
F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N.,  
F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E.,  
F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O.,  
F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D.,  
F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I.,  
F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M.,  
F.R.S.N., F.R.S.O., F.R.S.I., F.R.S.A.,  
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F.R.S.A., F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M.,  
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F.R.S.E., F.R.S.D., F.R.S.M., F.R.S.N.,  
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We hear that his Excellency has issued orders that the burning of papers before the doors of houses shall be done only in jars, and that these jars shall be provided with a certain wire guard of which a pattern is given. A supply of water has also to be kept at hand in case of fire.

The British barque *Bohimey*, having discharged, at Nagasaki, her cargo of kerosene oil, is now loading a full cargo of Miko coal for San Francisco. This is the first cargo of coal that has been shipped from Nagasaki to San Francisco.

The examinations at Nanking are over. We are informed that 27,312 students presented themselves, and of these eight died during the trying ordeal. The list of those who have been successful will be out about the end of this month. These examinations are good for steamer traffic on the Yangtze. On a recent trip from Chinkiang to Nanking the steamer *Kiangyang* had eleven hundred odd passengers, the largest number, we believe, ever carried by a Yangtze boat.—*Shanghai Courier*.

With regard to the troubles at Piliu, Formosa, we have already related how the Governor had despatched General Li Pankin with the force from Tai-pih to the spot. The *Wei-tsin*, the man-of-war steamer which took General Li to Piliu, having now returned to Tamsui, we have gathered the following particulars: The force of several thousands of savages were dispersed by her big guns, but re-united at Tai-chung. Here it was joined by the savages of the neighbouring savage settlement called Jen Wan, who are of extreme ferocity. General Li was going to attack them on 31st August, and was confident of an easy victory. The savages were originally in league with Chinese colonists who had placed themselves in armed opposition to the collectors of the new land-tax, and it was said that they had killed two Deputies, Messrs. Liu and Kuo, killed, and Kao got away from the enemies by whom he was surrounded, and escaped north by circuitous routes, making his appearance before the Governor on 25th August and telling his story.—*Shen Pao*.

## CHINESE NOTES.

The *Shih-pao* says:—Now that Commissioner Detting has by order of the Viceroy established a school of science at Tientsin, it is high time that measures were taken to compile a Standard Dictionary of Chinese and English, fixing by authority the proper Chinese rendering of scientific and diplomatic terms, so as to obviate the confusion and misunderstanding which has hitherto existed. Many have made dictionaries, but they frequently differ in their renderings. At Shanghai, Foochow, Nanking, Canton, and Tientsin, independent sets of scientific and technical terms have been adopted which often do not agree with each other. And in making the French and English Treaties there have been discrepancies between the European and Chinese versions. Such was the case even when distinguished Sinologists like Wade and Mayers made the Chinese Convention. There is no place so well fitted for undertaking such a work as Tientsin, where eminent scholars like Lo, Yen, and Tung are collected. They might receive help by correspondence from scholars distinguished for Western science in other provinces. Thus, when the work was completed and received official sanction, it would be a standard for all scholars to follow. We venture to suggest that there is no time like the present for making such a Dictionary.

The same paper says:—The presence of foreigners in a settlement greatly interferes with the effectual carrying out of the Chinese method of praying for rain. Slaughter is prohibited in a native city, but it is only carried on more vigorously in the foreign settlement. So that of course it is a solemn farce and cannot possibly move Heaven to send rain. No wonder that the foreigners who do not believe in prayer for rain laugh at the whole thing. We have, however, the best reasons for believing prayer. (Here examples of effectual prayer by ancient worthies are quoted, including the case of Han Wan'king and the crocodiles.) We cannot at the same time see the reasonableness of forbidding the slaughter of pigs, sheep, ducks, and fowls, which are fed for no other purpose but to be eaten. We might just as well stop killing and eating tigers, leopards, and wolves. It is different with horses and oxen which do us service in their life, and should have decent burial when they die. But, on the whole, a benevolent government of men consistently maintained is the best means of securing answer to prayer for rain.

The *Shih-pao* has come to the conclusion that dragons do not exist now. They must have become extinct in ancient times. (This agrees with the opinion of Mr. Gould in his *Mythical Monsters*.)

## 'FRAGRANT WATERS' MURMUR.

That the question of house rent in Hongkong is beginning to seriously affect the poorer class of Chinese.

That a shopkeeper who rent a few years ago was \$15 a month now has to pay \$75. That the shopkeeper, as a rule, takes care to raise the price of his goods so as not to be a loser, and that the real sufferers are those in receipt of fixed wages, who have not only to pay higher rents but a higher price for everything they buy.

That this class of people have been feeling the pinch so seriously of late that they are meditating sending all their families to Canton until affairs improve.

That the Chinese are saying that the many fires that occur are due to the same cause—small merchants not able to pay the rent or make ends meet burn their shops to square matters.

That the demanding of exorbitant rents is

due in a great measure to the action of middlemen who farm out blocks of buildings.

That until the military are removed and something done towards carrying out the suggestions of the Land Commission, there is no hope of controlling these middlemen, and things must just go on as they are until a crisis comes.

That it is to be hoped this typhoon which has passed by our shores is the last for the season, and that we may again congratulate ourselves on having escaped all destructive storms.

That there has been a small typhoon of catory at sea in the Supreme Court during the week.

That the judge and jury have been models of patience. His Lordship only occasionally suggesting to Mr. Robinson that a few less random shots in the air would be advisable.

That it has at last been possible in Hongkong to get a conviction against a man for setting fire to his house.

That the public are well pleased to see a trained lawyer on the magisterial bench, and the necessity for this has already been amply demonstrated.

That, although it is a refreshing novelty to have a lawyer-like judgment pronounced in the Police Court, the law may sometimes be harshly enforced, and in the case of Sergeant Duncan, who erred through zeal for duty if he erred at all, the hardship was manifest.

That the blame of the foolish prosecution lay, not with Mr. Pollock, but with the other magistrate, whom years of experience have failed to teach the rudiments of the law.

That I trust Duncan's comrades will not allow him to suffer vicariously without helping him towards paying the legal expenses and the fine imposed.

That Mr. Pollock seems not only to be a man well-versed in law, but a man of independent mind, if we are to judge by the way he dealt, on more than one occasion, with Captain Deane.

That the practice of heads of departments sitting on the bench beside the magistrate, whether directly prosecuting or not, is a bad one; but that I think the Postmaster General, and not Captain Deane, was the greatest sinner in this respect, and the Magistrate often was to blame for inviting these officials to sit beside him.

That the hopes entertained of having the ordinances of the Colony codified and put within reach of laymen have been sadly blighted.

That the Hongkong Hotel Company seem anxious to rival the Austin Arms Co. in the matter of elevation.

That if a real typhoon had broken over the Colony some of the bricks of the incipient Tower of Babel might have had a chance of testing the hardness of some heads.

That Mr. Price's temporary market would also be a game for a sportive typhoon.

That the Peak residents know well what vapour means and that they are shortly to have an experience of gas—not the kind expended in the Supreme Court but the real genuine article from our Gas Works.

That I wonder at your morning contemporary giving forth such stuff as was found in the *Mercury* as intelligent criticism of the movement for the stopping of Sunday labour in the harbour.

That the *Daily Press* own arguments, however, are little better than those of the northern journal.

That what these critics of a laudable movement fail to prove is that there is any essential difference between Hongkong and Liverpool or Hull.

That the proportion of heathen ships to be affected by such a rule is about as small in the one port as in the other.

That, although we may be justified in tolerating Sunday labour on shore, it is quite a different thing to compel Englishmen to work on Sundays for the purpose of giving employment to stevedores and coolies.

That England has not lost, in the competition for the trade of the world by observing Sunday, and Hongkong will not lose its trade by insisting on one day's rest in seven.

That I myself am in favour of making the law applicable to all vessels, mail boats included.

That the number of times that the mail steamers are in Hongkong on Sunday is not many, and the so-called loss would at the most be trifling.

That the result would doubtless be that these steamers, knowing the practice of the port, would contrive to avoid being in Hongkong over Sunday.

That reading the other day the account of the flexible inflexibility of the Chinese I could not help thinking that the man in the parable who said 'I go, my Lord' and went not, was a Chinaman.

That the Causeway Bay refuge has passed to fulfil its object, being now much too small to hold the native craft desirous of shelter. That the proper thing to do with it is to fill it up to the brim with water, and then perhaps in a short time a new city will rise up Eastwards.

That the *Genesee* did not bring guns, but only a gun and that a small one.

That the skins of the Home functionaries are indeed and in truth thicker than rhinoceros hides, and the sense of shame has departed from them.

That Mr. Stanhope stated in the House of

Commons that the fortification of the cooling stations would be inexpensive owing to the use of disappearing gun carriages (he would not call them Moncrieff carriages); and that if this is the case we want to know what has been done with our money.

That he will probably say next that Hongkong is not a cooling station.

That America, has been going the 'whole hog' recently, quite in the true Irish 'Tread on my tail if you please' style, seizing vessels in the Bahring Sea, rejecting the Fishery Treaty and summarily running out the Chinese.

That I should like to know what America would do if China retaliated by asking all the American missionaries to quit—said the *Paleo* to bombard all China?

That there is every reason to surmise that Mr. Maclean and Mr. Walter have severed connection with the Dakin Co. company, and that we may not get the opposition in the drug line so soon as was expected.

BROWNE.

SUPREME COURT.  
IN CRIMINAL SESSIONS.(Before Hon. James Russell, Acting Chief Justice.)  
Saturday, Sept. 29.

## CONSPIRACY TO DEFEAUD AN INSURANCE COMPANY.

**PRISONERS FOUND GUILTY.**  
The monthly Criminal Sessions were resumed to-day, when the trial of Cheung Kai, Choo Kai, Tong Yin, and Li Yek, on a charge of conspiracy to defraud the Straits Fire Insurance Company, Limited, by means of arson, was proceeded with.

Mr. Francis, Q.C., instructed by Mr. Robinson, appeared for the defence, and Mr. Robinson, instructed by Mr. Hastings (of Messrs. Weston and Duncan's office), for the defence. The jury were:—Messrs. J. O'Connell, J. Rogers, A. Johnston, F. J. V. Jorga, A. Young, H. A. J. White and E. del Aguila.

Mr. Robinson, in summing up for the defence, said the evidence for the defence divided itself into two classes. There was the evidence that there was no fraudulent claim on the part of the master, and no motive for making such a claim, and there was the evidence as regarded the other three prisoners that there was no evidence for the prosecution that they were guilty of the crime of arson committed by the shopmen, the implication being that the master's benefit, their having no interest in the business themselves, admitted the fact of a conspiracy to defraud the business and the stock would have some effect against the master, although it would not be by any means conclusive. The evidence of the witnesses for the prosecution who spoke to this point was, in effect, that the business had been greatly reduced and that the shopmen were almost depleted of the business and the stock would have some effect against the master, although it would not be by any means conclusive.

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of this crowd. As to the main point—was this arson or not, he submitted that the story of Leung Kau was, to say the least of it, vague, doubtful and uncertain and was not evidence which the jury could rely on. The theory of the defence as to the origin of the fire was that it was accidental, the nature of which they did not know, the shopmen being all asleep at the time. And in opposition to Leung Kau's statement that the fire had been put out by him, they had the statements of the two men from the adjoining shop, that when they went in, immediately after the shopmen had fled, it was a burning blaze, and therefore it must have been burning for some considerable time. The evidence of the other inmates of the shop was entirely corroborative of this. The story of the defence was that this statement of the Heung Shan boy was a pure fabrication and that he and the other men who came forward to support him were in league against the prisoners. When the charge was made against the prisoners by the Heung Shan boy, there was a general impression abroad, due to the Heung Shan boy's statements chiefly, that this was not an honest fire, and everything was seen through the 'green spectacles of suspicion,' and the result was that people convicted themselves that those men were guilty of the charge which had been brought by conspiracy against them.

Mr. Francis began by complimenting the jury on the patience with which they had followed the evidence, and then proceeded to make a very able and in some respects a very effective defence. He agreed with his friend that the main point for the jury to consider was whether there had been arson or not. If the three first prisoners did not appear to them to have set fire to the shop, then they were not guilty of anything; but if on the other hand, the jury believed that these three men did set the shop on fire, there could be no doubt that they were entitled to convict on the general evidence.

Through some unfortunate accident the proceedings at the Police Court, which ought to have been one, were broken up into two. He thought the jury would agree with him that in such a case as this—assuming that the prosecution had a case to answer, and that the fourth defendant, the instigator of, and the person to profit by this affair, should be brought to punishment—that that his instruments should be punished; and the cases had been united here in the only way in which they could have been united, by charging the four prisoners against the four, in order that if the jury believed that the four prisoners were guilty of the crime of arson, they should be found guilty of it. Therefore the jury were only asked to find them guilty of a comparatively minor charge, and not to convict them of the crime of arson, which was a charge of a much more serious nature.

Mr. Robinson, in summing up for the defence, said the evidence for the defence divided itself into two classes. There was the evidence that there was no fraudulent claim on the part of the master, and no motive for making such a claim, and there was the evidence as regarded the other three prisoners that there was no evidence for the prosecution that they were guilty of the crime of arson committed by the shopmen, the implication being that the master's benefit, their having no interest in the business themselves, admitted the fact of a conspiracy to defraud the business and the stock would have some effect against the master, although it would not be by any means conclusive. The evidence of the witnesses for the prosecution who spoke to this point was, in effect, that the business had been greatly reduced and that the shopmen were almost depleted of the business and the stock would have some effect against the master, although it would not be by any means conclusive.

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in the box, stated that when he went into the shop he saw kerosene running from a pile of wood in the shop. He touched it with his hand, and it was so hot that he could not touch it. He said that he would have no doubt about what it was. If a kerosene lamp had been upset that might have explained the matter, but on the other side it was said there was no kerosene lamp, only a lamp with Chinese oil. If the jury believed Leung Kau's statement about the kerosene it was absolutely consistent with what the boy said. Referring to the evidence of the rice pounder who was left alone in the shop his Lordship remarked that it would surely have been only natural if the shop-people who said he was sleeping next to this man had noticed him before running out of the shop. The fact that the man was not noticed would be consistent with the shop-people's having been engaged in these operations in the shop which the Heung Shan boy described. The statement of the Heung Shan boy was no doubt in some respects extraordinary and it would be for the jury to form their own opinion as to its honesty or otherwise. After referring to the contradictory evidence as to what took place after the fire, the alleged visits of the master of the shop to the Heung Shan boy's father's house and that of the Heung Shan boy to the house of the master of the Kut Fung, his Lordship left the case in the hands of the jury.

After a retirement of about a quarter of an hour the jury returned a unanimous verdict of 'guilty' against the prisoners. Mr. Robinson moved for an arrest of judgment in the case of the fourth prisoner, on the ground that the information laid was bad in law. No overt act was alleged except that of setting fire to the premises, which act was limited expressly by the wording of the information to the first, second and third prisoners.

His Lordship—Should that not have arisen on demurrer?  
Mr. Robinson—No, My Lord.  
His Lordship—Why not?  
Mr. Robinson—Because I took the chance of a verdict, which I was entitled to do. His Lordship said it struck him at present that Mr. Robinson's contention was worthless but he would hear it out on the point on Tuesday morning at ten o'clock. The prisoners were then removed in custody.

## FORMOSA.

Tamsui, 18th September.

Fighting is still going on very doggedly at Tamsui. The Japanese steamer *Pecken* arrived here on the 15th from the East Coast, with about fifty sick and wounded men, in all states of most pitiful misery. Everything that could be done for the poor helpless fellows was done immediately. The *Pecken* steamed round to Kelung on the 16th and went to the Pandoras afterwards to repair the cable between there and Tamsui, which has been interrupted for several days, for reasons unknown. As soon as that job is finished, she is expected to take ammunition and provisions to the troops at Piliu. The number of foreigners in Tamsui is steadily increasing, especially in this place and at Tamsui. Not many years ago, there were no married people living here at all; now there are no less than six married couples here, with twenty-five youngsters swarming around them. A 'schoolmaster' will be wanted to teach the children, and the members of our community are engaged to an unenviable and ugly life in Hongkong, and it is rumoured that the happy event will pretty soon come off. The German S.S. *Johann* arrived here on the 16th from your port, and returns to day via Keelung. I'm sorry to report that cholera is still prevalent amongst the natives, especially at Banks and Tamsui; there has also been a few cases at this place. It is said that about fifty per cent prove fatal, but we all hope now that matters in this respect will soon ameliorate, cooler weather having set in. Happily, no foreigners have been attacked. But, unfortunately, many members of the foreign community have been suffering from fever, some of them rather more so than in former years. On the whole, our good Doctor has had very hard and trying times of it lately, between his foreign and native patients with a large number of sick and wounded soldiers suddenly thrust upon his professional skill in addition to his ordinary clientele.

Much indignation is felt here that the Governor, generally known as a clever, intelligent man, could permit himself to send his bravos to the front without any medical supervision, and without any ambulance. Everybody is greatly astonished why the Governor did not secure the services of the three young medical gentlemen trained by Dr. Wyckham Myers of Takow (Formosa), which Li Hung-chang attached to his Military College in Tientsin since—*Shen Pao*.

## LOUI LIKIN.

Minute of the Kiangnan Viceroy on a Petition of the Hailuian Likin Office.

In all cases where foreign goods in accordance with Treaty are conveyed under cover of a half-duty certificate all that requires to be done on passing the various stations and barriers en route is to produce the said certificate for examination and a further payment of duty cannot be levied. It is therefore incumbent on the Board appointed to levy the Likin in the Soochow circuit to see that the goods, after arriving at their destination and leaving their pass, shall have been landed and warehoused before they call on the native receiver for payment.

This is most clearly set forth in a copy of the Regulations jointly submitted to me by the Hon. Mr. Soochow and Shanghai and how can it have escaped your notice?

According to the Regulations in force in Soochow and Shanghai all you have to do, seeing you are stationed at Hailuian, is to inspect all foreign goods for the Provincial Capital covered by a half-duty certificate as they pass your barrier. Even supposing there were no other barrier but your own for them to pass before arriving at their destination all you could have to do would be to retain the pass and forward it to the Head Office; you yourselves cannot levy any duty.

Some carts have recently been received from two firms Yu Shang and Yung Hsing stating that their goods have been detained and I was requested to give instructions to the Central Office for their release; with this request I at the time complied.

In a word, if a certificate has not been delivered up to you, you are quite correct. You have however not studied the regulations with any care, and now when consequently you have committed mistakes, you are not aware of having done so, but on the contrary characterise the action of the Central Office as irregular, a course of proceeding which is not at all correct. I have to express a hope that for the future you will, in obedience with my instructions, see that the goods and the entries on the certificate correspond with each other, and if so allow them to pass at once.

The instructions issued by Chen, the Customs Tao-tai of Chinkiang, namely, that if on examination the goods correspond with the entries on the certificate they should be allowed to pass, are quite correct. You have however not studied the regulations with any care, and now when consequently you have committed mistakes, you are not aware of having done so, but on the contrary characterise the action of the Central Office as irregular, a course of proceeding which is not at all correct. I have to express a hope that for the future you will, in obedience with my instructions, see that the goods and the entries on the certificate correspond with each other, and if so allow them to pass at once.

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once. Should there be any further complaints of detention and delay I shall have to visit you with punishment.

Similar instructions are being issued to the Head Office in Nanking.

With reference to the case of leaving Loti duty on foreign goods in Nanking and district, I have to add that in reply to a petition presented by the Chaokuan Likin Office, I stated that a careful investigation would require to be made by the Central Office and having learned their report and the views they take of the subject I would come to a decision.—*N.C. Daily News*.

## KOREAN NEWS.

On the 15th inst., Colonel Chailong Long of Egyptian fame, formerly chief of staff to Gordon in the Sudan, and now Secretary to the U.S. Legation here, left by the *Yugo Maru* for Fusan, wherefrom the Colonel intends to cross over to the Island of Quelpart for the purpose of exploration and collection of ethnological travel. This island, which local tradition says, was visited by Yacoub Khan, in search of conquests, had once a settlement of Spanish or Portuguese traders, was the scene of the stranding of the *Speker*, is now the seat of at least two branches of highly ornamented Korean industry, and is altogether a field which is sure to yield a rich return to an explorer of Colonel Long's ability.

A Japanese squadron under the Command of Admiral Ito arrived lately in Chemulpo. Admiral Ito visited Seoul as the guest of Madae and Minister Kanai, who, to celebrate the occasion, gave a most successful entertainment on the 8th when a very enjoyable evening was spent listening to the really excellent performance of the Japanese vocal band.

On the 10th it appears that a deplorable encounter took place between Japanese sailors and Chinese in Chemulpo. A dispute arose, and from words it came to blows, a Chinaman being severely wounded and several hurt on both sides.

On the evening of the 11th, in celebration of the birthday of the Emperor of the Japanese, the gun of the Japanese Legation were thrown open by Madae and Minister Wabara. The grounds of the Legation were most charmingly decorated and illuminated with more than 1,000 lamps. Among the chief guests we noticed Ministers Dismore, Yuan and Rondo, Consuls Krien, Plauer and Hoshikawa, Admiral Ito, Generals Chung, Han and Dye, Mr. Denby, Rev. Mr. Jones and many more. His Imperial Highness the Grand Duke Alexander, who is expected on a visit here, did not arrive in time to take part in this most brilliant entertainment.—*N.C. Daily News*.

I regret to report that our crop of rice and beans in the vicinity of Fusan must be considered lost. We have had no rain whatever for a considerable time. In other parts of the country the farmers are reported to be much better off. This is a hard case for our agriculturists, where rice and beans always used to form two staple articles of export. The following Japanese non-of-war called here on the 14th inst.:—*Kaimon Kan, Nansu Kan, Tokuo Kan, Fuso Kan, Mitsu Kan, The Yachiko Kan* arrived here on the 14th inst., and to join the flying squadron and to place the *Fuso Kan* as flagship. While the fleet was here we enjoyed some splendid music, discoursed by the Admiral's excellent band, and on the whole, there was a jolly good time all round during the stay of the fleet.

The Japanese Ministers Ito and Saigo were on board the fleet, arriving from Nagasaki in the *Takachiho Kan*. The ships were in apple pie order, and their crews behaved exceedingly well while in port. The whole crowd left us on the 17th for Vladivostok via Soerabaja. Later, some news has had to be imported from Japan into the settlement, but we soon expect native cereals to drop in costwise. That is all the news I can give you.—*Shanghai Mercury*.

## NOTES FROM NATIVE PAPERS.

This summer the cholera has been very bad in North Formosa, at Tamsui, where foreigners purchased meat, the deaths having averaged sixteen daily for some time within a radius of 5 or 6 li, since 22nd August. On 3rd and 4th September about 400 people succumbed, and the sights to be seen were most painful. On 5th September the native tea merchants held a procession in honour of the Tzu-chang God of the town to ward off the epidemic influence. Old people say although they always have cholera in that district during the 6th and 7th moons, they never remember to have seen such a fatal year as this one. There is a hurried exodus of Amoy natives being going on.

Mr. Hsu, Austro-Hungarian Consul, is about to leave Shanghai, where he has had a career of over 10 years, commencing as an Interpreter and rising successively to the ranks of Vice-Consul and Consul. He is an accomplished English and Chinese speaker and reader, and on his reputation of an intelligent and able Assessor at the Mixed Court. As he is returning to Europe on leave, the other day he visited the Mixed Court just about the conclusion of the morning's sitting, and said good-bye to Mr. Tai, Mixed Court Magistrate, Captain McEwen, and others.

Since the present Acting Maritime Sub-prefect at Amoy, Chang, took his leave some months ago in the *Yanbu*, he has been a wonderful success in the cases brought to the Yamen for decision. The reason is said to be the heavy sequences levied by his clerks, who obtain from each party to a new case \$17, or \$24 in all. The Amoy people are very litigious, but now they no longer bring so many of their disputes before the Consul as they say they don't care to 'lose a year to win a cat.'

It is now several years since the silver mines were opened at Jehol, but the first attempts at developing them proved abortive. Last year the U.S. Vice-Consul at Tientsin, Mr. Peabody, requested the Viceroy to devote 120,0



